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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **FAX RECEIVED**

APPLICANTS : MANFRED T. REETZ ET AL. JAN 03 2003  
SERIAL NO. : 09/463,494 **GROUP 1600**  
FILED : July 25, 2000 **OFFICIAL**  
FOR : METHOD FOR PRODUCING AND IDENTIFYING NEW  
HYDROLASES HAVING IMPROVED PROPERTIES  
ART UNIT : 1652  
EXAMINER : C. Patterson

January 2, 2003

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Insert as the first paragraph of the specification the following new paragraph: -- This application is a 371 of PCT/EP98/04612 filed on July 23, 1998.--

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